

# THE POINT

THE FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE STUDENT JOURNAL

ISSUE #2

SPRING 2001

WEEK OF APRIL 5TH





# Letters to the Editor: A Complete Whiff

When I picked up the March 1st edition of our student journal, the Point, I was eager to read the "Complete Baseball Preview." I was impressed that the school newspaper chose to take on a national topic, not simply assuming that all FSC students care about is their own sports teams. As a sports fan I was excited to read about the upcoming baseball season, but as a fan as well as a student employee of the FSC athletic department for four years, I was appalled at what I read.

The main portion of Sports Editor Shaun Moriarty's preview was focused around the Red Sox-Yankees rivalry. Although this is an entirely relevant topic to most baseball fans at FSC, Moriarty harbors an obvious bias for the Red Sox, and against the Yankees. His snide quips about the splinters in Roger Clemens's hand or about Chuck Knoblauch's throwing arm frankly have nothing to do with the Yankees' chances of repeating this year. This was a blatant disregard for the reader. If Mr. Moriarty wants to entertain his legion of Red Sox fans by offering them a pen-and-paper comedy routine at the Yankees' expense, rather than a solid, objective analysis of what the season holds for both teams, then he should keep it to himself and not bother to waste the baseball fan's time. Many people read this preview assuming his facts were straight, his opinion was credible, and his arguments were impartial. After a closer look, it is quite obvious that none of this occurred.

When writing a complete baseball preview, first I think it is important to include all teams, not simply comment on the only rivalry New England cares about. If you want to write an article about the Red Sox-Yankees rivalry then do so, but don't pass it off as a "complete" baseball preview. Second, I think it is important to have at least some baseball knowledge; I found very little of this within the evidence provided. And lastly, I would hope, at the very least, that an author with any journalistic integrity at all would be able to get his facts right; this is what disappoints me the most.

To be honest with you anyone could make the mistake of penciling in the Indians for another playoff appearance, except most would take the time to learn that Cleveland never made the playoffs last year before printing it. And yet, even others would *realize* their mistake after reading the next paragraph in their very own column that the White Sox did in fact win the Central last year.

As for these "young crops of hurdlers" you refer to in the paragraphs concerning the Indians and White Sox, it would be nice to put some names with the careless cliches. As for Yankee stadium being replaced with an "old folk's home," an objective journalist might have pointed instead to the last three World Series, where the Yankees dominated with seasoned veterans and playoff heroics. After three straight championships you don't have to like the Yankees, but from the Sports Editor of a newspaper I would expect an impartial attitude behind a "complete" baseball preview.

A complete baseball preview would have provided equal info on all teams, American and National leagues. As you left it, the Sox-Yankees rivalry had five paragraphs devoted to it, leaving the Royals, Tigers, Twins, A's, and Angels with that much coverage combined. When commenting on the Angels, Moriarty could have written about Darren Erstad and Garrett Anderson, two guys that have carried the team since before the Mo Vaughn era. But no, he chose instead to focus on another talent lost to free agency. If he had wanted to enlighten the reader he might have discussed why the American league continues to dominate in the World Series, despite weaker pitching and fielding.

And what about the national league? The article seemed to tail off once Moriarty entered "unfamiliar ground." If he had written a complete baseball preview the reader would have found that most of the talent lies in the National

league. With big name hitters like Ken Griffey Jr. and Mark McGwire jumping leagues, teams like St. Louis, Cincinnati, and Colorado have now become threats to win it all. He could have also written something about Mike Piazza, arguably the best offensive catcher in the history of the game; some even have him penciled into the Hall of Fame after a long and productive career. The only mention of Piazza lies in his comments on the Pirates, leaving Jason Kendall out in the cold.

As for the rest of the national league it seemed that Moriarty didn't bother to research some of the lower end teams, never mentioning a single name or number concerning the Florida Marlins. What about Todd Helton, the man who almost broke .400 last year? Maybe after he reaches the impossible milestone he'll be mentioned, but as far as Moriarty is concerned, probably only in the shadow of Ted Williams, the last player to do so. Lastly, anyone who read the preview more thoroughly than Moriarty put it together would have noticed that he completely omitted any information about the Arizona Diamondbacks. Or maybe they recently ceased to exist as a sports franchise because our Sports Editor knows nothing about them?

As a sports fan I am angered that our student journal could not supply an accurate, news-worthy story. It is disappointing to say the least that the Sports Editor at our school newspaper lacks both a knowledge of sports and a certain amount of journalistic integrity to draw the line between "newsworthy" and opinion. As a professional within the sports community I am deeply disappointed by the Point's inability to bring on writers that

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## THE POINT

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Justin Crawford

DefScribe

Sarah Leahy

Shaun Moriarty

### FACULTY ADVISOR - Doris Schmidt

Ben Reed

Renaissance Man

Joe Staffiere

Mark Whitemore

*The Point* considers for publication letters to the editor on any topic of interest to the Fitchburg State College community. All submissions run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length.

All articles must be typed or legibly handwritten and include a name and phone number in case of questions. All letters in response to an article must be submitted within two days after the article is published.

Announcements should be short, including dates, places, times and a contact person.

The content of any article labeled Opinion does not necessarily represent the views of *The Point*, its staff, or Fitchburg State College.

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# THIS MODERN WORLD

by TOM TOMORROW

Hey, kids! It's time for another exciting episode of...

## STATING THE OBVIOUS!

starring

PUPPIES ARE CUTE!

THEY SURE ARE!

and



SO IT TURNS OUT THAT THE STOCK MARKET CAN GO DOWN AS WELL AS UP!

WHO KNEW?



PERHAPS IT WOULD NOT BE SUCH A GOOD IDEA TO INVEST SOCIAL SECURITY FUNDS IN THE MARKET AFTER ALL.

IT COULD BE RISKIER THAN WE REALIZED.



SO...DO YOU THINK THERE'S ANY CORRELATION BETWEEN CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTIONS AND POLITICAL INFLUENCE?

OH, NOW THAT'S CRAZY TALK!



TUNE IN NEXT TIME--WHEN BIFF AND BETTY DISCOVER THAT POLITICIANS DO NOT ALWAYS TELL THE TRUTH!

TM TOMORROW © 4-4-01... www.thismodernworld.com

## reminders

The Seats Available List for all undergraduate day courses for Fall Semester 2001 is now available exclusively on the World Wide Web. Students will no longer receive Seats Available Lists in their mailboxes. Please go to [www.fsc.edu/~registrar/](http://www.fsc.edu/~registrar/) beginning next week to see what courses are being offered this fall! If you do not have access to the World Wide Web you may contact the Office of the Registrar.

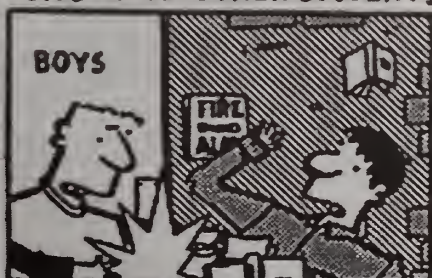
## CAN I? SCHOOL VIOLENCE CHEAT SHEET

IS IT O.K. TO CALL A FELLOW STUDENT OBSCENE NAMES?



A: YEAH, PRETTY MUCH.

ARE YOU ALLOWED TO SHOVE ANOTHER STUDENT?



A: IT'S NO BIGGIE.

HOW ABOUT PUNCHING?



A: KIDS ALWAYS FIGHT... IT'S NORMAL!

CAN I SEXUALLY ASSAULT ANOTHER KID?



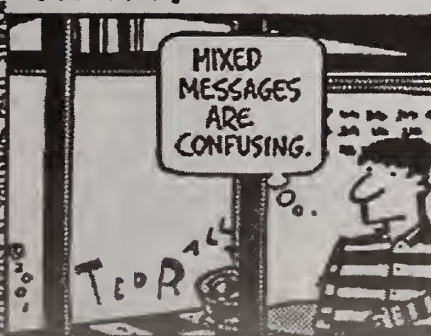
A: FONDLING IS O.K., BUT NOT PENETRATION.

WOULD IT BE A PROBLEM IF I GET TOGETHER WITH A BUNCH OF THUGS TO POUND A FELLOW STUDENT NEARLY TO DEATH?



A: BOYS WILL BE BOYS!

MAY I SHOOT A FELLOW STUDENT?



MIXED MESSAGES ARE CONFUSING.

Student Health Services reminds all full time students that you need to have complete medical files on record with our office before registration to avoid a hold being placed on your account. With this hold, you will be unable to register for fall classes. If you have any question as to whether your record is complete or not, please call Health Services at 3216 or stop by our office in the Anthony Building. Thank you.



# CASH IN A FLASH

Photography Scholarships

Leica Camera, Inc., an international camera manufacturer that has influenced the art of photography since the 1800's, is proud to offer the Leica Camera/Jim Marshall Photo Scholarship. The Scholarship will encourage you photographers to actively pursue excellence in photography. The prize? A new Leica M6TTL with a 35mm f/2 aspheric Leica lens and a cash prize of \$2,500. Sponsored by Leica Camera and the world-renowned photographer, Jim Marshall, the scholarship is specifically designed to aid future professional photographers. The extended deadline for all entries is May 15, 2001.



The scholarship is available to juniors and seniors in college with either a major or minor in photography. A jury consisting of Marshall and four additional judges will review all entries on primary strengths and aesthetics and the impact of images.

Marshall has become known for his ability to capture candid and revealing shots of some of the world's most famous musicians. Throughout his career, he was one of the chief photographers at the Monterey Pop Festival, the original Woodstock in 1960, and was the only photographer granted backstage access at the Beatles' last concert. He is honored to present this scholarship to a deserving photography student to continue his/her education in the field.

For consideration, students must submit a portfolio of their best photographic work. For further information and official scholarship entry forms, please contact Rashida Jones of Leica Camera at (201) 767-7500 ext. 219, or via email at [rjleiciausa@aol.com](mailto:rjleiciausa@aol.com).

## THE STARS AND STRIPES - SHOT DOWN

by The Renaissance Man

Greetings and salutations loyal readers of the Point. The Renaissance Man returns with more topics, questions, and knowledge, so open up your optics. Remember, this is a reader response column so don't hesitate to write in with your comments, questions and even insults. Now, LET'S GET READY TO RUMBLE!!!!

Today's topic is about the in-flight collision of a U.S. reconnaissance plane and a Chinese fighter plane. First question of the day: Who is to blame for the collision? The Chinese maintain that it is the United States' fault. The U.S. claims that there's not enough information to determine whose fault it is. Well let's look at the facts:

1) According to government sources, the U.S. plane, an EP-3 (the Aries II), was on a routine reconnaissance mission. 2) The EP-3 is a sensitive surveillance aircraft that aviation experts say is capable of monitoring electronic communications and aircraft movements inside the Chinese mainland from points offshore. 3) There is no way the Chinese government or any other nation, would let the U.S. fly a plane with those capabilities unless they're looking to become a protectorate or ally with the U.S. 4) Definition of the word reconnaissance: inspection or exploration of an area, *especially one made to obtain military intelligence*.

## SITES TO BEHOLD

by Ben Reed

There I was sitting at my computer doing my homework when all of a sudden I receive an e-mail message from [www.justatip.com](http://www.justatip.com). It read that somebody thought that I was a silly drunk, whatever that means. I clicked on the provided link to learn more about why I was a silly drunk and found out that the reasons were false of course, but it was an interesting break from my homework. What was this e-mail that I received? Who sent it to me, and why?

That's the fun of this site and why I enjoy it so much. You can send anonymous messages complimenting or criticizing your friends, family, employers, teachers, and practically anyone. Suppose there is a teacher who you find incredibly boring, simply log onto the website, look under criticisms for bad teachers, select as many negative criteria as you see fit, and type in her/his e-mail address. Bingo! An anonymous message is sent informing them of how awful of a teacher he/she really is.

The receiver also has the opportunity to send an e-mail back to the sender defending himself or herself, all secret of course. Just as I was writing this I got another e-mail, apparently I am a bad kisser too. I replied that I'd practice more on my pillow.

There is also an area where you can send compliments anonymously. Perfect for when you want to say that someone has good hygiene or is a conscientious driver. As an added bonus web links are provided with each category to help someone, such as myself, learn how to improve my kissing skills, or learn how to control their alcohol consumption (although I don't see this as a problem). If you end up receiving too many tips there is the option of blocking your name from receiving e-mails, but what fun is that?

Finally the site has a section on funny stories from users who have gotten tips. I don't find them all that funny, and they are worth skipping. Don't take this site too seriously, it's just meant for fun. I highly recommend it. I like it; I like it a lot!

## BlatAnt Rip-off of the Harpers Index

Number of FSC Students: 2,493

Number of FSC Students who commute: 1,418

Number of Resident Students: 1,075

Number of Commuter only (Red) parking spaces: 655  
Number of those located at McKay or Civic Center: 541

Number of Resident only (Green) parking spaces: 214

Number of shared (Red/Green) parking spaces: 357

Ratio of Commuter Students to  
Commuter spaces available: 10:7

Ratio of Resident Students to  
Resident spaces available: 2:1

Number of FSC faculty and Staff: 218

Number of Staff Only (Blue) Parking spaces: 317

Ratio of Faculty and Staff to  
available parking spaces: 2:3



# CHUTE THE WORKS...

by Mark Whittemore

A different kind of book requires a different kind of "review." Carolyn Chute's *The Beans of Egypt, Maine* is not your average book, written in the traditional format, but rather it is written in a form of dialect in which its character would relate - "backwoods" and to the point. There are "Ayups" and "Eyups" for answers throughout, dialect that we don't see that often here in "Massachooits." Some paragraphs are only three words long, but get the point across.

*The Beans* is like a slice of life not everyone has lived or seen. The book was first published in 1985, but I would not recommend buying an older copy, because *The Beans* was a work in progress for the first ten years and was "finished" according to Chute, in 1995. Editions after 1995 have a postscript in them, as beautifully written as the book itself. The PS explains a lot of the controversy revolving around certain scenes in the book. I would suggest the postscript be read first.

*The Beans* chronicles the lives of a family and their neighbor Earlene in the small town of Egypt, Maine. The book spans a time period of roughly thirty years, and describes the views of three generations. *The Beans* covers

themes like childhood thinking, parental expectations, self-expectations, religion, and general events that working class lives of these characters. Throughout the book, the characters delve into the entire range of human emotion. The book might seem as foreign to some as reading a piece of lit-



erature from two hundred years ago. We often don't want to believe that such things actually happen, or under such conditions, or that such people actually existed, but these are problems of marginalization.

I will not go into detail about the book, except to say that *The Beans*, like any book, can change the reader's perspective on social issues. I leave

out the details for many reasons. One reason being, (which Chute mentions in the postscript and I have tried to suggest in my reviews with *The Point*) is that a writer should not be judged by one piece of his/her work alone. Chute has published several pieces of work; it just happens that *The Beans* is her best-known one.

Carolyn Chute will be at FSC, on Wednesday April 18th. She will be taking part in the New England Writers Series and will be giving a lecture at 7:30 pm in the Kent Recital Hall.

In closing, I would like to say that I have been to several of these lectures and have found them to be very interesting, each in its own way. I have also been surprised to see that out of such a large community of students, many living right on campus, the lectures have had such a low turnout. In November, we had the privilege of hosting Mr. Jay Parini, an expert on the poetry of Robert Frost, however, less than a half dozen students attended. These lectures are paid for with you in mind; they are here for you and they are interesting, so it wouldn't hurt to attend. The television will still be there when you get home, I promise. Carolyn Chute will only be coming one time though, so go and see her speak.

## New Course Offering

In the Fall 2001, the Department of Behavioral Sciences will offer a new Human Services course, Assessment and Intervention (HMSV 5000), taught by Dr. Lynne Kellner. This course is intended to expand on Interviewing Techniques and further provide practical experience in intervention strategies. A special focus will be given to family intervention and developing a working understanding of the DSM-IV. Prerequisites include Human Services Theory, Issues and Practice, Abnormal Psychology, Interviewing Techniques and Human Growth and Development (or an equivalent Developmental course) The class meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 2:00-3:15 and is limited to 20 students.

## RED MEAT

perdition's pemmican pouch

from the secret files of  
MAX CANNON

Confidentially, Lord...I have a rather sensitive question for you. I'm kind of embarrassed to even ask you this.



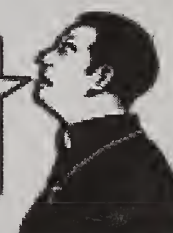
Don't be silly, I'm the creator of all things. Besides, I'm omniscient...I already know what you're going to ask me. Be at peace.

Then it's okay that I'm unnaturally aroused by the very sight of white patent leather shoes?



What?! Ha! Ha! Ha! That's sick! I thought you were going to ask me about righteousness or something.

Great. Didn't you just say that you were all-knowing?



I am. But in some cases, I have to switch off the total cosmic consciousness so I can eat.



# THE WIRE

by DefScribe

Hey, did anyone happen to catch that it was class registration time again? You know, the lovely time of year when we decide just how much hell we can stand next semester? If you answered no it's probably because the usual arrival of the course catalogs in all student mailboxes was foregone this year due in part to the infinite wisdom of our administration. Apparently Fitchburg State College doesn't have the money to print out the course catalogs (maybe we need another emergency pseudo-column installation on the other door of DAKA instead.) Lord knows if we patch up the external of the school enough its crumbling infrastructure won't seem so horribly and hopelessly apparent. I don't want to get on a rant, but it's my column, so deal with it. This weeks installment of the Wire is hereby dedicated to wasting as much paper as I can in memory of our lost course catalogs - may they rest fondly in our hearts and most unobtainable on our school's homepage.

All right, now that I have all of that out of my system we can attend to the business at hand. This week the DefScribe has a homey feeling in his subcoccal region so I'm staying close to campus with my listings.

First and foremost I would like to remind everyone about *Wish Upon A Star* this Saturday night at the Wallace Civic Center. The event is presented to us by the Muck Crew, and tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door. Headlining talent will include such DJs as Richard "Humpty" Vission, Christopher Lawrence, Donald Glaude, Dieselboy and many more. Doors open at 9:30 pm, but anybody who's anybody is always fashionably late. We all know that right? Anyway, hope to see you there.

On campus in the next week are several noteworthy events. *The Drunkard* directed by Richard McElvain will be opening April 4<sup>th</sup> at 8:00 pm with guest usher, yours truly. So behave and sit still or Joey Freestyle and I are bouncing your ass. The play will run through the 8<sup>th</sup> and will also run from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 14<sup>th</sup> with a Saturday matinee at 2:00pm. Tickets are \$5 for students \$7 regular admission.

In other campus theatre happenings, the Play Rights series will be presenting "Four Hearts Changing," on April 12<sup>th</sup>. It is an interactive theatre program focusing on themes of dating violence among young adults (and that doesn't mean nipple clamps and whips either). Admission is free, so come by the Ellis White Lecture hall at 7:00pm, April 12<sup>th</sup> for this informative, interactive event.

Feel like getting out of town? The Boston Ballet will be performing *Cross Currents* with musicians Robert Kelly and Morris Pleasure on Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. The event is taking place at 19 Clarendon St., Boston, and tickets are available for \$20 at 978-852-3863.

Comedian Michael Dean Foster (Comedy Central, HBO) will be appearing live in the M&M lounge on April 11<sup>th</sup> at 9pm. The cost is free and if the prospect of finals isn't enough to make you laugh with insanity, then maybe he can.

Also appearing in the M&M lounge (who knew it was so damn hip?) will be Sara Wheeler. The performance will be part of the Classic Lunch series and is happening April 6<sup>th</sup> at noon.

# wheeler



Sara Wheeler is a prolific singer-songwriter who plays acoustic guitar, piano and trumpet. Her sound is a contagious folk/rock incorporating progressive styles. Sara grew up in Michigan and began her musical journey at the age of ten. After high school, she moved to Boston to study piano and guitar, graduating from Berklee College of Music. Now based in New England, Sara spends most of her time on the road touring. *Moonlight Dancers*, Sara's latest recording is a combination of strong melodies, memorable lyrics and beautiful arrangements. Sara will be appearing tomorrow at Noon in the M&M lounge as part of the Friday Classic Lunch Series presented by Student Activities and the Campus Center.



## ATTENTION ALL STUDENTS:

The Seats Available List for all undergraduate day courses for Fall Semester 2001 is now available exclusively on the World Wide Web. Students will no longer receive Seats Available Lists in their mailboxes. Please go to [www.fsc.edu/~registrar/](http://www.fsc.edu/~registrar/) beginning next week to see what courses are being offered this fall! If you do not have access to the World Wide Web you may contact the Office of the Registrar.

### FRATERNITIES - CLUBS SORORITIES

#### STUDENT GROUPS

Earn \$1,000 - \$2,000 this semester with the easy Campus-fundraiser.com three hour fund raising event. No direct sales required. Fundraising dates are filling quickly, so call today! Contact [campufundraiser.com](http://campufundraiser.com) at 888 923 3238 or visit [campufundraiser.com](http://campufundraiser.com)

### \$10/hr GUARANTEED

Work on campus F/T or P/T for as little as 5-10 hrs/wk or as many as 40 hrs/wk. Be your own boss. Create your own schedule. Limited positions. Call 1 800 808 7442 x 80

# DRINK UP!

The English Department will present the famous American melodrama *The Drunkard* April 4-7 and 11-14 in Percival Auditorium. Performances will be at 8 p.m., with a 2 p.m. matinee on April 14.

The production will be directed by award-winning actor, director and associate English professor Richard McElvain. McElvain has brought many critically-acclaimed productions to the Fitchburg area, including *Twelfth Night*, *Hard Times*, and most recently, *The Tempest*, which went to the Edinburgh International Theater Festival last summer.

*The Drunkard* will include live performances of many Stephen Foster favorites, including "Oh Susannah,"

"Ring The Banjo," and "I Dream Of Jeannie With The Light Brown Hair."

The cast of students includes Eric Mello, Michael Jacobson, Christina Bontempo, Danielle Desmarais, Sara Zifcak, Justin Grace, Matt Walsh, Nick Howe, Shane Desmond, Kathleen Coughlin and Ryan DeCarolis.

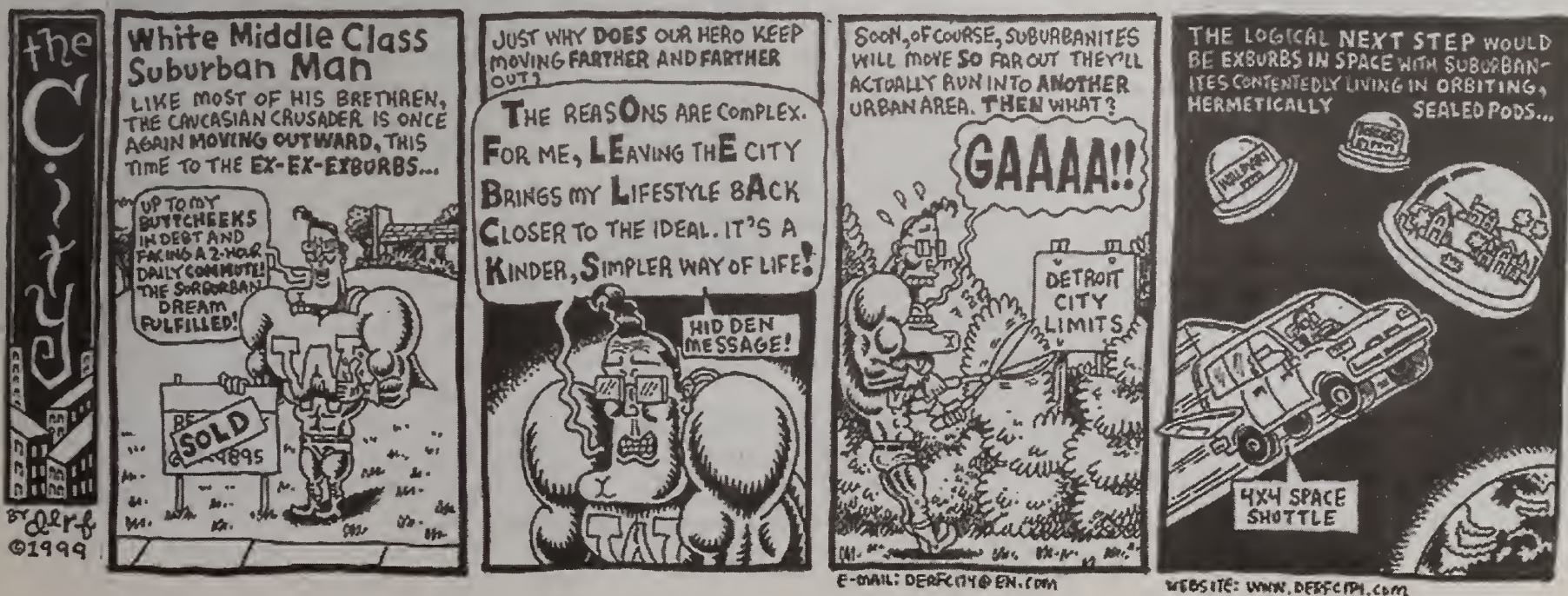
Fitchburg High School dual enrollment senior Heather Esch will play the lead role of Jeannie. The production will be fully designed in keeping with the period, circa 1844. The music will feature the live accompaniment of Jena Paolilli.

Ticket prices are \$5 for students and seniors and \$7 for the general public. Call the box office at (978) 665-3347 for more information.

## To your health

Spring into health at the Fitchburg State College Health Fair on Tuesday, April 10th. Gift certificates will be raffled off every half hour. Vendors providing the gift certificates include: Bob's Stores, Bootlegger Restaurant, Cinema World, Debonis Florist, Dutch Kitchen, Outback Restaurant, Searstown Mall, Slattery's Restaurant, Via Roma Restaurant, Victory Supermarket, Walmart, the FSC Bookstore, and FSC's exercise and sports science department.

The fair will be held from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the G Lobby of the Hammond Building. Please come and visit the many tables and sample a portion of what health care offers today. Talk with health professionals and obtain a fat analysis. Get your blood pressure checked and try the "Beer Goggles." **ADMISSION IS FREE!**



E-MAIL: [DERFCITY@EN.COM](mailto:DERFCITY@EN.COM)

WEBSITE: [WWW.DERFCITY.COM](http://WWW.DERFCITY.COM)



# Testing...one...two...

By Justin Crawford

Well, we're less than 100 days on the road to elitism, and our nation's fearless leader has *already* succeeded in scaling back the women's equality movement, lying about his intended environmental initiatives, scaring us into believing we need a gigantic tax cut, and unknowingly dulling the existing dividing line between church and state. Hey, so far, so good...

Here's another not-so-hot topic that you naughty Republicans have pushed off into the corner, hoping that anyone with a shred of common sense would overlook — your President's "education plan." The president recently advocated higher standards of education. Is this a bad thing? Not at all. The President wants the same thing that we all want for our children — a better learning experience that will result in smarter students who will contribute positively to our society. This is what the prez really means, it's just easier for him to say "higher standards" because it only has four syllables...

The problem lies in how the President thinks this change can be brought about. He has proposed massive testing programs that will determine which students are capable of going on to higher education. It probably should be evident that first, tests *do not* teach, they merely measure the amount of prior learning that has taken place. A great majority of tests are simple, objective exams that check the students' memorization of trite facts, figures and dates. They do not promote real, internalized learning. The only way in which testing might promote learning in any way, shape or form is if a student is so scared by the thought of failing an exam that may well alter his life, he studies out of fear. I think this is hardly a method inductive to learning.

So what do we have to look forward to if we embrace Bush's "education plan," that is, if we up the standards without upping the means to meet them? Simply put: an intellectu-

al disaster; a growing gap between the educated and the uneducated that will further aggravate the growing schism between rich and poor in this country, and create a more dire need for remedial education services that already go unmet due to insufficient funding.

Those students who are naturally smarter will be able to meet the demands of Bush's "higher standards." Meanwhile, as standards continue to soar, more and more children will settle for the education they have been receiving.

These children will subsequently fail to pass the necessary exams and will be labeled "remedial." In addition to the staggering price it will cost to implement these testing programs in the first place, more and more tax dollars will then be needed to fund remedial education programs for kids who really don't need them at all...

It makes sense. I must point out that I am not a communist. I am aware that a certain level of social, economic, and even intellectual stratification will probably continue to exist in this country. It's an inherent part of capitalism itself. What does bother me is to see the leader of the free world get up on national television, and proclaim that under his education plan, "no child will be left behind." On the contrary, under Bush's plan, more children than ever will be "left behind," and all because they might come up one or two points shy...

So, there's yet another statement we can chalk up in the "lie" column, even though Bush isn't smart enough to realize the drastic effects his plan will have on our youth. It isn't fair — to those kids who struggle to improve their chances of success, or to the future of this nation. Four years from now, when Al Gore is "re-elected" and the Bush administration is left shaking its collective head over its educational mishaps, the rest of us will know very well what went wrong. Hey, isn't that the way it always works?

# SHOOTING STARS

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Continued from page 4

As indicated by the definition, the plane is used to spy on China. The word routine suggests that this plane flies through Chinese airspace on a regular basis. The Chinese did not report having any knowledge of these missions and the U.S. did not state that they made it clear to China that these missions were being conducted. We can conclude then, the U.S. was in violation of several international agreements because the plane flew into Chinese airspace without the government's permission.

As the EP-3 was invading Chinese airspace gathering information it had no right to, it collides with an F-8 fighter jet. The F-8 crashes into the South China Sea. To make things worse the pilot of the plane is missing. The EP-3 on the other hand manages to make an unauthorized landing on the island of Hainan. So far the score is China 2, U.S. 0. I know a lot of you are angry, but the problem requires logical thinking not patriotic emotion. So, I'm going to simplify the problem for you red-blooded Americans.

I continuously ride my bike through your yard daily without your permission (a little thing known as trespassing). You know someone has been riding a bike through your yard, because of tire tracks imprinted on your grass. You only discover it's me because you come home early and surprise me. In my shock I crash into your parked car denting it causing much damage. My front rim is bent, but the bike is still salvageable. I escape, but leave the bike. Now your car is damaged, you have to plant new grass because the tire tracks ruined your yard, and now my bike is on your property.

Would you be anxious to give me my bike back, if I called and asked for it back? If this isn't simple enough for you, maybe you need Hooked on Phonics, Highlights Magazine, Sesame Street Magazine or some other learning tool.

The U.S. doesn't realize that it's more than just the collision and the missing pilot. Let's not forget the bombing of the Chinese Embassy on May 7, 1999 in Belgrade. The anniversary of the tragedy is coming up soon. I know the families of the three killed didn't forget.

Another offense to the Chinese is U.S. relations with the island of Taiwan. The U.S. is pondering the idea of selling "destroyers equipped with the advanced Aegis air defense radar system to Taiwan." This move would not seem advisable in securing good diplomatic relations with China. The score is now China 4 and the U.S. 0.

Instead of reflecting and owning up to the offenses the U.S. is charged with, our nation's leader takes this attitude: Bush wants to change the nation's relationship with China from "Strategic Partner" to "Strategic Competitor." By demanding the plane back and ordering the Chinese not to board it he made them that way. Bush also wants to "come down harder on enforcing human rights and religious freedom in China." Every nation will not be like the U.S., so why try to force them to be. Stay biased U.S. — it seems to work for you.

continued on page 8

Continued from page 6

Lastly, for all you semiformal fanatics on campus, the SGA, in conjunction with the class of 2003, will be hosting the spring semiformal on the *Spirit of Boston*. It's all happening April 29<sup>th</sup>. Tickets will cost \$50 per couple and \$30 per person and can be picked up at the Hammond Center Info Desk.

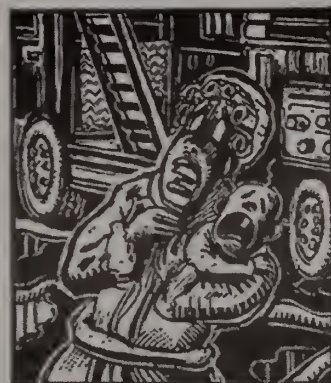
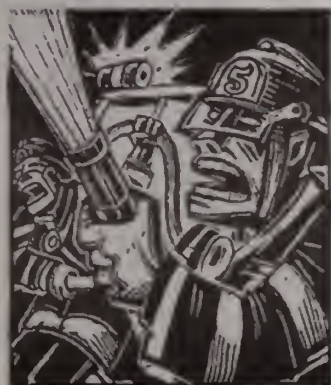
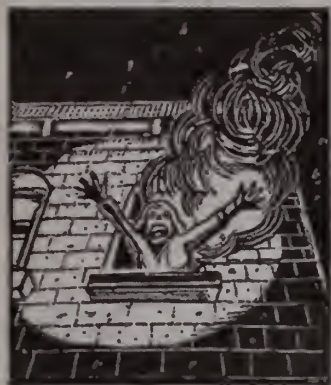
Well, that's it for this week cats. Everything here is 23 skidoo as usual and so I leave you with a reminder. If you have any events you think people must know about, then get at me at [Defscribe@aol.com](mailto:Defscribe@aol.com) or at [Point@fsc.edu](mailto:Point@fsc.edu). Until then remember, it isn't the falling that hurts, it's the sudden stop that's the killer. Peace.





# ART FOR EVERYONE'S SAKE

by Sarah Leahy



© PETER KUPER

"Displaying art at Mocha Alley gives local artists good exposure because of the eclectic mix of people who stop by," says owner Lance Delagano of his small yet popular coffee shop on Main Street in Fitchburg. With customers including students from local high schools such as Oakmont and Fitchburg, college students from Fitchburg State and Mount Wachusett, and employees of other Main Street businesses, Mocha Alley serves people of almost all ages and tastes. "The only people who we don't serve, really, are children," Delagano says.

Mocha Alley, which will celebrate its four-year anniversary in May, has always helped local artists by giving them a chance to display their work to the public. Many of the artists whose works hang in Mocha Alley are members of the Leominster Art Association. Some are students at area high schools and colleges, while others simply create art in their spare time.

"When an artist asks to display his or her work here, I simply put them on a list," says Delagano. "At first there was not a very long wait to see an artist's work displayed, but now the wait can be up to a year." The usual display time ranges from one to four months, he says.

"In allowing local artists to show their work here, we both benefit: Their work gets seen by the public, and the walls at Mocha Alley always look nice," Delagano says. "Changing the work every once in a while also gives a shift of atmosphere for the people who frequent my shop."

Customers such as Fitchburg State College student Samantha Martin agree. "I think the art at Mocha Alley really helps create a relaxing atmosphere," Martin says. "I also enjoy seeing the different artists' styles. When the work gets changed often, I get to experience different types of art, which I like."

Artwork at Mocha Alley sells in "spurts," according to Delagano. Price tags can range from \$40 to thousands of dollars, but the majority of the work at Mocha Alley fits most wallet sizes.

Though Mocha Alley does not advertise the display of art on its walls, word of mouth from artists and customers spreads news of the art all over the community. "I learned that I could display my artwork at Mocha Alley through friends from school," says former Oakmont High School student Jennifer Franklin. "A new group of people were exposed to my work when I displayed it there." Works from FSC's AmeriCulture Arts Festival also adorned the walls of Mocha Alley in the fall.

## rites of spring

Attention students, faculty, and staff: once again spring is in the air and the Spring festivities are approaching fast. This year the Volunteer Center will be planning their 3rd Annual Easter Egg Hunt for children in our community on Saturday, April 14th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. on the Quad. Do you have young siblings or relatives or people of whom you take care? Bring them down for games, food, prizes and fun.

If you are interested in helping out throughout the day with the children, running games, telling stories, helping with food, or just being a positive role model for one afternoon, we need your help. Come and stop by the Volunteer Center Office in the Hammond Building for more information and to sign up for a day of Spring Splendor!

## SPEAK YOUR PEACE

Under a new initiative from the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education, students at two and four-year public colleges are being invited to voice their opinion on the quality of life on their campus.

The Quality of Student Life On Campus Task Force, created last October by the Board of Higher Education, is offering students several opportunities to be heard.

In addition to meeting informally with students and visiting the community colleges, state colleges and University of Massachusetts campuses, members of the Task Force have launched an online survey for students to complete. The survey, which focuses on issues that impact student life, is at [www.MAStudentSurvey.com](http://www.MAStudentSurvey.com).

The survey should take less than 10 minutes to fill out, and covers issues such as living accommodations, diversity, student activities, dining and athletic facilities, parking, security and alcohol use.

The survey, which will be on the Web until the second week in April, includes questions such as:

Is there adequate meeting space/equipment for your student activity?

What improvements would make you more comfortable with diversity issues on your campus?

How would you rate the living accommodations on campus?

How would you rate the athletic/wellness facilities on campus? How would you rate the access to these facilities?

Do you think enough is being done to prevent alcohol/drug abuse?


Do you feel safe when you are on campus?

The survey will provide information on areas of interest and concern to students, and will allow the Task Force to further its investigation of ways to improve the quality of student life on campus. The panel plans to present its final report to the Board of Higher Education in the fall.

Board of Higher Education Chairman, Stephen P. Tocco and appointed Board member, Matthew E. Carlin to head the panel.

Carlin said the online survey is a vital component of the Task Force's ability to collect information. "We want to get a lot of feedback from the students we didn't meet face to face," said Carlin, who encouraged students to include the positive aspects of campus life as well as the negative. "We wanted the Web site to be fun and creative, but also inviting and user-friendly for students. We're hoping for a big response."





hang ten,  
earn six\*

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## WHIFFY?

possess adequate sports knowledge. But mostly I am outraged to learn that a large percentage of the student body will believe so-called facts that harbor neither truth, nor an intelligent journalistic approach. Do yourself and the rest of your readers a favor Mr. Moriarty, and stick to covering FSC baseball - whenever it is you get around to doing that...

Joe Staffiere

*Let me first respond by admitting to being biased on the Red Sox; I have always been a die-hard Red Sox fan and always will be. As far as the Yankees go, I very proudly admit that I hate them with a passion. Although I did let some of my Red Sox pride ooze through into my writing, I did filter quite a bit of it out.*

*As far as Mr. Staffiere's allegiance goes, I can assume you are a Yankees fan. If so, more power to you - some of my best friends are Yankee fans. Seeing how well-rounded you are as far as knowledge about players from both leagues and such, I also assume you're a true Yankees fan and not a Yankee fan simply because they've won the last three World Series titles - something even I can respect about someone wearing pinstripes.*

*In your letter, you said, "...Chuck Knoblauch's throwing arm frankly have nothing to do with the Yankees' chances of repeating this year [as champions]."*

*I disagree. At the time the original story ran, March 1, Knoblauch was slated to be the starting second baseman for New York. However, due to his constant wild throws to the first baseman, he was moved to left field and replaced at second. Now, if Knoblauch had remained the starting second baseman, as thought at the time of original print, his wild arm would certainly have something to do with the chances of a four-peat. There's an old saying in baseball that defense wins ballgames, a saying that is more often than not true. It's true, many teams can not just slug their way to the playoffs with lousy defensive ballplayers everywhere. Knoblauch was a huge liability to the Yankees. Red Sox fans know all too well how costly an error can be, i.e. Billy Buckner. If Knobby's arm didn't hinder the odds of a Yankee run at the title, Joe Torre wouldn't have moved him to the outfield.*

*As far as the "Complete Baseball Preview" title goes, I'm not at fault there. I don't mean to pass the buck, but ask any reporter for any newspaper in the country and he or she will probably tell you that they didn't like the headline that was given to their story. I'm not saying I was upset with the headline, but I was not the one who dubbed it as a "Complete Baseball Preview." That's the guys who write the headlines, not me.*

*As far as my comments on the American League Central, I am very aware that the Chicago White Sox won the divisional crown and not the Cleveland Indians last season. I also know, despite winning 90 games last year, the Indians didn't even make it to the playoffs as a wild card team. However, when I said, "The A.L. Central will once again see the Cleveland Indians win the division..." I was referring to their dominance as the central division champions for most of the 1990s, until the pale-horse dethroned them last season.*

*Also referring to the Indians, you were upset with the lack of specific names for the young hurlers I mentioned. If you want specific names, I was referring to Cameron Cairncross, Tim Drew, and Justin Speier.*

*As far as the Angels go, with or without Mo Vaughn they're not quite playoff-caliber. However, most people in the area know nothing of the Angels outside of Mo Vaughn, and maybe Tim Salmon or Massachusetts-native Gary DiSarcina. Personally, I am a big fan of Darin Erstad. As far as players who have no ties to the Red Sox in any way whatsoever, he's one of my favorites. He's a very good hitter all around. As far as Garret Anderson, he has not carried the team the last few years. Last year he had a breakthrough year power-wise, hitting a career-best 35 homers. However, his average dropped twenty*

*points or so, as did his on-base percentage. If we were to mention the guys who carry the Anaheim Angels, I'd say it's Troy Glaus and Erstad.*

*Yes, the National League has a higher percentage of the most talented players in the game in comparison to its counterpart, the A.L. Personally, I'm not a fan of Ken Griffey Jr. Don't get me wrong, Junior is arguably one of the greatest outfielders to have ever played the game, but he seems to be a plague upon his teams. It may be a coincidence that Seattle went to the playoffs in their first year without him and that the Reds had a dropoff from their 1999 season despite the addition of Griffey Jr. I personally feel that Griffey will probably never get a World Series ring. Great player or not, he somehow ruins chemistry or otherwise hinders his team's chances.*

*True, Mets catcher Mike Piazza is only mentioned once and is only mentioned in reference to overshadowing Pirates backstop Jason Kendall. This isn't meant to downplay Piazza or anything like that; I even refer to him as a "future hall of famer" in the story. Truth is, Mike Piazza is one of the most prolific catchers in history, possibly the best offensive catcher ever. Plus he isn't too bad defensively. I didn't leave "Jason Kendall out in the cold," as you claimed. I said he's the best catcher in the NL behind Piazza, hardly leaving him in the cold.*

*As far as the Marlins go, I did not go into very much depth on the team. One reason being that I only have so much room for my stories, editorials, and/or columns. This isn't Baseball Weekly. But I'll give you some of the names of Florida players I like and think will help the team "contend in a couple years."*

*The Marlins have Charles Johnson back as their catcher, a guy who won several gold gloves during his first tour in the N.L. before playing with Baltimore and the White Sox. Derrek Lee is also a solid young first baseman that could one day turn into a Rafael Palmeiro type of player. Outfielder Cliff Floyd is on the verge of being an All-Star. Preston Wilson could also be an All-Star if he'd cut down the K's and get some wood on the ball a little more often.*

*The fish also have a pretty young and strong pitching staff with one of baseball's best closers in Antonio Alfonseca, who saved 45 games last season. Matt Clement, A.J. Burnett, and Ryan Dempster are all pitchers for the Marlins who could become very good hurlers.*

*As far as Todd Helton, that was an oversight on my part. Happens when you work with deadlines sometimes. Helton is a great hitter, both for average and for power. I don't think he'll hit .400 in his career, but I could be wrong. He is a premier first baseman and I apologize for excluding him.*

*Finally, the Arizona Diamondbacks were not included in my story. I'm not sure what happened there. It is possible in my haste to finish the story I somehow forgot about the D-backs. Its also possible that they were accidentally edited out of the story by someone else. It doesn't matter how it happened, just that it did happen. Yes, Arizona will be a force to be reckoned with. They may be the first team ever to have two pitchers strike out 300+ batters in the same season; i.e. Randy Johnson and Curt Schilling. They also have one of my favorite non-Red Sox pitchers in Brian Anderson. They've got Mark Grace, one of the true good guys in baseball who isn't out there looking at baseball as a job necessarily, but as a game. They also have Jay Bell, a guy I liked back when he was Pirate with Andy Van Slyke and Tim Wakefield. The aging Matt Williams is also there, a solid ballplayer. The outfield is headlined by Luis Gonzalez and Steve Finley. Both are very good to great defensive players and both hit for high averages. If anyone was to rival the Giants for the N.L. West pennant, it'd be Arizona or Colorado.*

*If Joe, or anyone else, has any other thoughts, complaints, compliments, or anything to point out or say, let me know here at the Point. I may not be in the office though - I may be covering FSC baseball. Go Red Sox!*

Shaun Moriarty  
Sports Editor



# THE POINT'S GREAT 21ST CENTURY HEMI-DEMI-SEMI-ANNUAL ALL STAR SPORTS TRIVIA CONTEST

So you think you know it all do you? Well now is your chance to see just how smart you are when it comes to sports. The Point and Sports Editor Shaun Moriarty are giving you a chance to get a pair of Red Sox tickets! Answering a few questions correctly is easy and a whole lot cheaper than the Sox ticket office. Each question is worth a certain number of points, a correct answer to the question scores that many points. The maximum number of points is 55. Whoever gets the most points wins the tickets. The second place winner will get a gift certificate to Outdoor Endeavors on John Fitch H'way. Ties will be decided by a random drawing. The tix are good for an upcoming game in historic Fenway Park. Speaking of Fenway, here's question number one:

1. What year did Fenway Park first open? (1 point)

- A) 1912
- B) 1901
- C) 1918
- D) 1914

2. Who was the last NHL player to play without wearing a helmet? (4 points)

- A) Jari Kurri
- B) Marcel Dionne
- C) Tim Taylor
- D) Craig MacTavish

3. What NFL player holds the all-time career record for passing efficiency? (3 pts)

- A) Randall Cunningham
- B) Steve Young
- C) Jim Kelly
- D) Bart Starr

4. What golfer has won 6 Master's Tournaments, a PGA record? (2 pts)

- A) Ben Hogan
- B) Jack Nicklaus
- C) Tiger Woods
- D) Phil Mickelson

5. This pitcher holds the all-time record for the most innings pitched in the

World Series with 146 innings, who is he? (2 pts)

- A) Whitey Ford
- B) Smokey Joe Wood
- C) Dave Stieb
- D) Warren Spahn

6. Who did Cassius Clay upset to win the Heavyweight Title on February 25, 1964? (2 pt)

- A) George Foreman
- B) Muhammad Ali
- C) Sonny Liston
- D) Ken Norton

7. What team hasn't won a World Series since 1908? (1 pt)

- A) Chicago Cubs
- B) Cleveland Indians
- C) Boston Red Sox
- D) Chicago White Sox

8. What tennis player is Roy Emerson tied with for most men's Grand Slam singles titles with 12? (2 pts)

- A) Arthur Ashe
- B) Pete Sampras
- C) Boris Becker
- D) Andre Agassi

9. What pro baseball player appeared on the cover of the first Sports Illustrated magazine? (3 pts)

- A) Cy Young
- B) Eddie Joost
- C) Babe Ruth
- D) Eddie Mathews

10. Who led the 1989 Boston Red Sox in homeruns with 30? (2 pts)

- A) Mo Vaughn
- B) Ellis Burks
- C) Nick Esasky
- D) Jim Rice

11. In NASCAR's modern era, only two drivers have led every lap of a race. One of them is: (5 pts)

- A) Richard Petty

B) Dale Earnhardt

- C) Jeff Burton
- D) Bobby Allison

12. What man holds the record for most rebounds in an NBA game?(3 pts)

- A) Nate Thurmond
- B) Wilt Chamberlain
- C) Bill Russell
- D) Dennis Rodman

13. Who is the only baseball player to have ever won the MVP and the Rookie of the Year award in the same year? (2 pts)

- A) Ted Williams
- B) Babe Ruth
- C) Fred Lynn
- D) Walt Dropo

14. How many Moriarty's have played in the MLB (Major League Baseball)? Please note, there was a Gene Moriarty but he is not counted due to the extra "I" in his name. (5 pts)

- A) None
- B) One
- C) Two
- D) Three

15. Which man has won the most consecutive sanctioned competitions in any one track and field event? (4 pts)

- A) Sergei Bubka
- B) Jesse Owens
- C) Edwin Moses
- D) Carl Lewis

16. Which country has won the most world cup soccer titles? (3 pts)

- A) Argentina
- B) Germany
- C) Italy
- D) Brazil

17. Which boxing heavyweight is the only man to finish his professional career without a loss?(4 pts)

- A) Muhammad Ali

B) Rocky Marciano

- C) Joe Louis
- D) Jack Johnson

18. Where is former New England Patriots head coach Pete Carroll now? (2 pts)

- A) Head coach at USC
- B) Head coach right here at Fitchburg State College
- C) A coach with the Seattle Seahawks
- D) Head coach of the XFL's Memphis Maniax

19. Which men's college basketball coach holds the record for most career victories? (2 pts)

- A) Bobby Knight
- B) Adolph Rupp
- C) John Wooden
- D) Dean Smith

20. Nolan Ryan has thrown seven professional baseball no-hitters. The next most thrown by any other pitcher is:(3 pts)

- A) 2
- B) 3
- C) 4
- D) 5

Circle your responses on this page then cut, tear or bite it off, fill out the information below and send it to The Point campus mail box 6705. Entries can also be dropped off at the Point office located in the basement of the Hammond Building. Entries must be received by Friday April 13th. Incomplete entries will be disqualified.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

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CAMPUS PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

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